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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/183,267	10/30/1998	FRANK GUARNIERI	SAR-12902	2934

7590 01/08/2002

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005-3934

EXAMINER

HARTTER, AMY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1631

DATE MAILED: 01/08/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

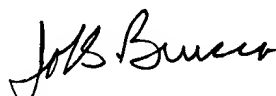
Color photographs and color drawings are acceptable only for examination purposes unless a petition filed under 37 CFR 1.84(a)(2) or (b)(2) is granted permitting their use as formal drawings. In the event applicant wishes to use the drawings currently on file as formal drawings, a petition must be filed for acceptance of the photographs or color drawings as formal drawings. Any such petition must be accompanied by the appropriate fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i), three sets of drawings or photographs, as appropriate, and an amendment to the first paragraph of the brief description of the drawings section of the specification which states:

The file of this patent contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent with color drawing(s) will be provided by the Patent and Trademark Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.

Color photographs will be accepted if the conditions for accepting color drawings have been satisfied.

The reply filed on 9/05/01 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): A petition and fee were not filed for the acceptance of the color drawings. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Please see rule 37 C.F.R 1.84.


JOHN S. BRUSCA, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER


Amy Hartter

Art Unit: 1631

Detailed Action

The reply filed on 9/05/01 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because a petition and fee were not filed for the acceptance of the color drawings. Since the period for reply set forth in the prior Office action has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant corrects the deficiency and obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application. Please see rule 1.85 of the MPEP.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from this examiner should be directed to Amy Hartter whose telephone number is (703) 305-1696. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:00 to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Time).

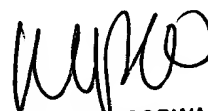
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Woodward can be reached at (703) 308-4028. The fax phone numbers for the group are (703) 308-4242 and (703) 305-3014.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Patent Analyst, Kim Davis whose telephone number is (703) 305-3015 or to the Technical Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.



Amy Hartter



MICHAEL P. WOODWARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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